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## MINOR NOTICES.

A MONOGRAPH of the hypogaeous fungi of California has been published by Mr. H. W. Harkness.<sup>6</sup> One hundred and eight species are described, of which fifty-eight are new, with five new genera. There is unfortunately no artificial key or synopsis, so that the work will be of little value except to the specialist, and we fear he will have occasion to complain of the brevity of the diagnoses of new genera and species. These rarely exceed two or three lines, with few or no explanatory remarks.—C. R. B.

F. V. COVILLE and G. N. ROSE have published a list of plants collected by Mr. and Mrs. Leonhard Stejneger on the Commander islands during 1895 and 1897. These islands bear no trees, due, the authors think, to the violent wet winds that sweep over them during the winter. The geographic relationship of the flora is primarily Kamchatkan, with strong Aleutian and arctic elements, and there is almost no insular specialization. The list is reprinted from *The fur seals and fur-seal islands of the North Pacific Ocean*, part 4, pp. 352-361. 1899.—J. M. C.

"BOTANIZING" is the title of the new book by the author of *The Botanical Collector's Handbook*, Professor W. W. Bailey, of Brown University.<sup>7</sup> It embraces the material of the former volume but is completely rewritten and greatly improved. The amateur will here find the completest and best directions for all kinds of botanical collecting. The author has been assisted by various specialists, some making only general suggestions, others preparing the sections relating to particular families of phanerogams and the larger groups of cryptogams. Fifteen illustrations show useful apparatus for preservation of specimens. An index should have been added. The author (*in litt.*) asks readers to delete the words "the steppes of Asia or" on page 4, line 7.—C. R. B.

## NOTES FOR STUDENTS

IN A PRELIMINARY PAPER read before the Botanical Society of America, at Columbus, Dr. Charles E. Bessey discussed the probable significance of apetaly and its connection with diclinism and diœciousness. He suggested that well-established plants, as shrubs and trees, as well as those which mass their flowers may dispense with petals. Petaly is apparently correlated with entomophily, and apetaly with anemophily. Apetaly and diclinism appear to result from progressively increasing aphanisis. Lists of apetalous and diœcious plants were given and discussed.

<sup>6</sup> Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci. III. Bot. I: 241-286, *dbl. col. pl.* 42-45. 1899.

<sup>7</sup> BAILEY, W. W.: *Botanizing: a guide to field-collecting and herbarium work*. 12mo. pp. xiv + 142. *figs.* 15. Providence: Preston & Rounds. 1899.